

*WAIS Inc.*

# **Books on a Network: NetBook™?**

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SigWeb 12/14/93

SigWeb 12/14/93

## Overview of Talk

- Network publishing's brief status
- NetBook: An analogy of Internet Information Services
- WAIS Inc: a work in progress
- Some Upcoming WAIS Systems

## **Network Publishing: Where Are We?**

- **Networks emerging from Government funding**
  - Networks installed in Academia, Military, and High Tech
  - Networks starting to go commercial
- **Information Services still in Government funding stage:**
  - DARPA/NSF funding still dominant
  - Existing companies adapting (eg. Mead, Dialog)
  - First of Startups (eg. WAIS Inc)
- **Yet to come: Games, Voice/data, Museums, Malls**

## What I Really Want

- **My own information to be accessible to me**
- **Published information should find me**
  - **Fun to browse**
  - **Easy to dive into a particular point**
- **Usable Anywhere**
- **Help me share what I have learned**

## **A NetBook Contains:**

**Table of Contents:** Browsing (eg. *Gopher*)

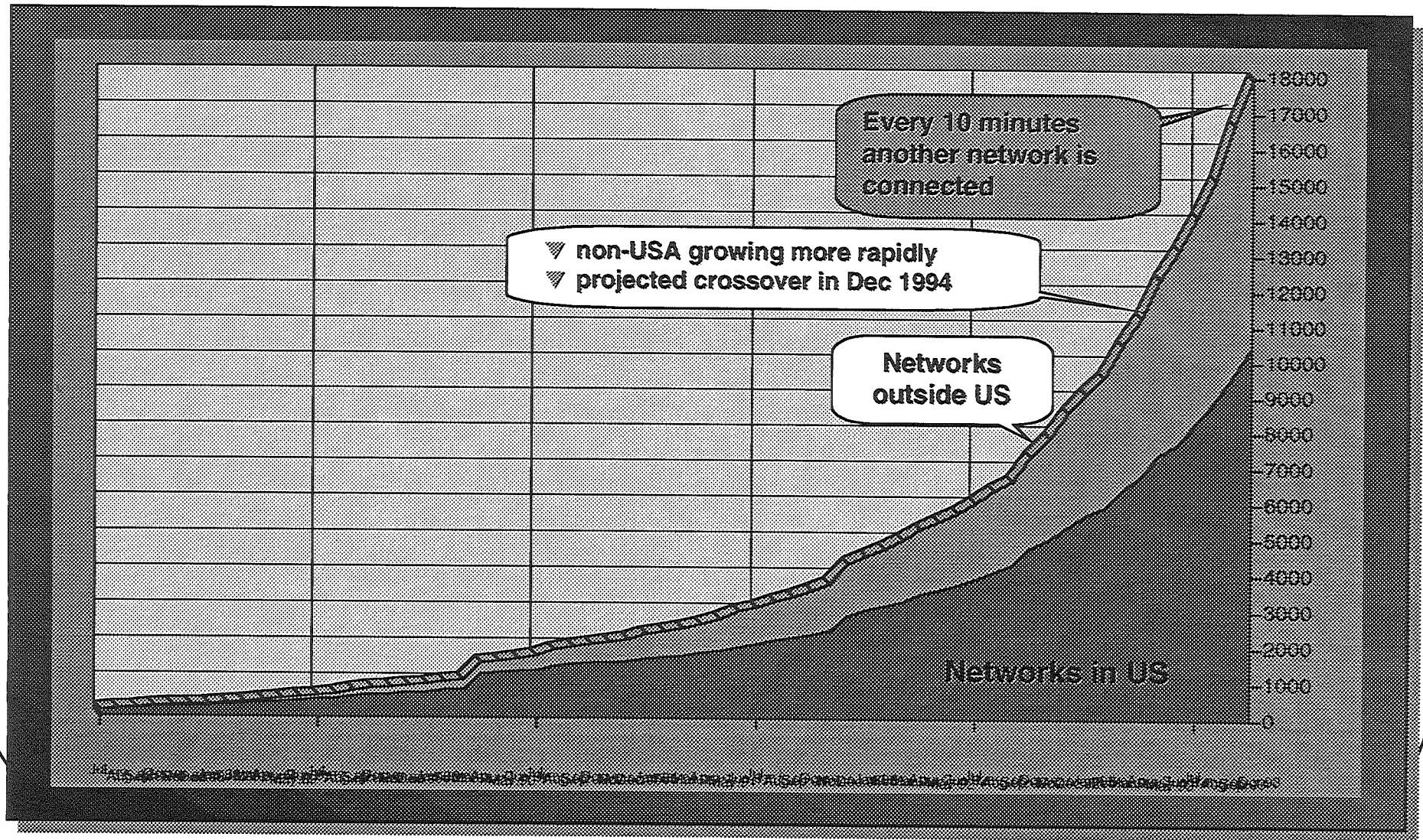
**Pages:** With active footnotes, dynamic illustrations (eg. *WWW*)

**Index:** Dive into a subject Area (eg. *WAIS*)

**Works over a Network** (eg. *Internet*)

WAIS Inc.

## History of Connected IP Networks: The Internet



## Internet Services: Navigating Global Information Space

Allows  
Personal news  
feeds

Allows Personal  
browsing

Allows Finding  
People

Allows Finding  
Information

Allows  
Automated  
Gathering

### Basic Services

- Remote computer use
- Transferring files
- Email

### Mailing Lists and Bulletin Board Services

- Automated mailing lists
- News distribution

### Interactive Information Delivery Services

- Gopher
- World Wide Web
- Mosaic

### Directory Services

- WHOIS
- Netfind
- X.500
- Whois +++

### Indexing Services

- Archie
- Veronica
- WAIS
- online library catalogues

### Active Agents

- Knowbots

### Network Management

- SNMP
- SNMP2

# The Networked Table of Contents

- Browsing
- Hierarchical
- Editor constructed
- New:
  - Cross-machine links to other Tables of Contents
  - Ties to searches, library systems, etc.
  - Problems with reliability



# Internet Gopher

- Introduced in 1992 by University of Minn
- Thousands of Servers
- Top level gets 10,000 requests an hour
- Very popular with "Internet explorers"

## The Networked Page

- Hypertext links: clickable footnote (eg. WWW)
- Dynamic Illustrators: 3-D rotatable, motion, simulation (eg. Interleaf)
- Slower to flip pages: seconds to minutes
- Issues:
  - Fonts & page formats: SGML, acrobat, RTF, Common Ground, Postscript, ...
  - Picture formats: TIFF, GIF, CCITT(FAX)
  - Different screen sizes, resolutions, network speeds

## Flipping Page Speeds

	Size	Over modem	Over Internet	Over Univ Internet
ASCII	2KB	2sec	1sec	1sec
Formatted	30-80KB	30-80sec	5-13sec	1-2sec
w/Picture	150KB	3min	25sec	5sec

## Networked Back of the Book Index: Searching

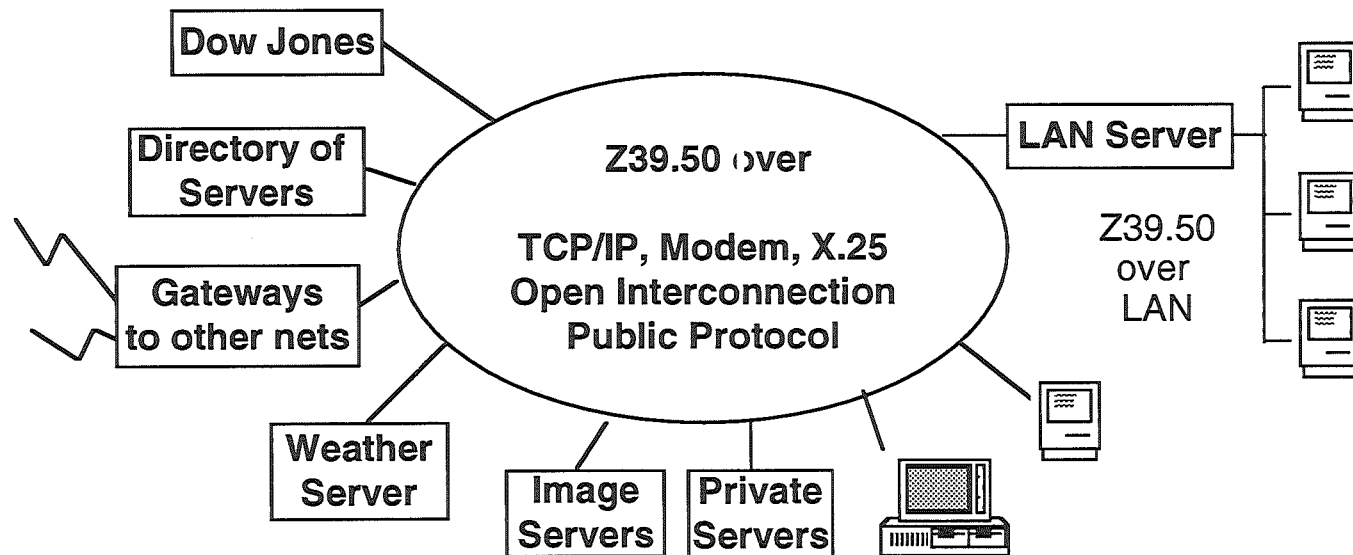
- When you know what you are looking for
- Manual indexing —————> full indexing
- Advanced navigation:
  - topic clustering,
  - query analysis,
  - relevance feedback
- Interactive through gigabytes

## WAIS on Internet



- Over 50,000 users on the Internet
- Users in 28 Countries: Mexico, Singapore, Finland, Australia, ...
- 500 Databases served from 12 Countries: Norway, Canada, UK, ...  
New database every day.
- VT-100 Interface in California:  
240 each day, 4,600 different machines

# Wide Area Information Server Architecture



- Point-and-click interface to Worldwide Information
- Client -----> Protocol -----> Server

## Speed of Searching

	Size	Speed
1 Book	1MB	<1 sec
1 yr of Wall St Jnl	100MB	2 sec
1 Enc Brit	1GB	2-5 sec
1 Lib of Congress	20TB	? sec

# **Wide Area Information Servers, Inc.**

## **Internet Publishing**

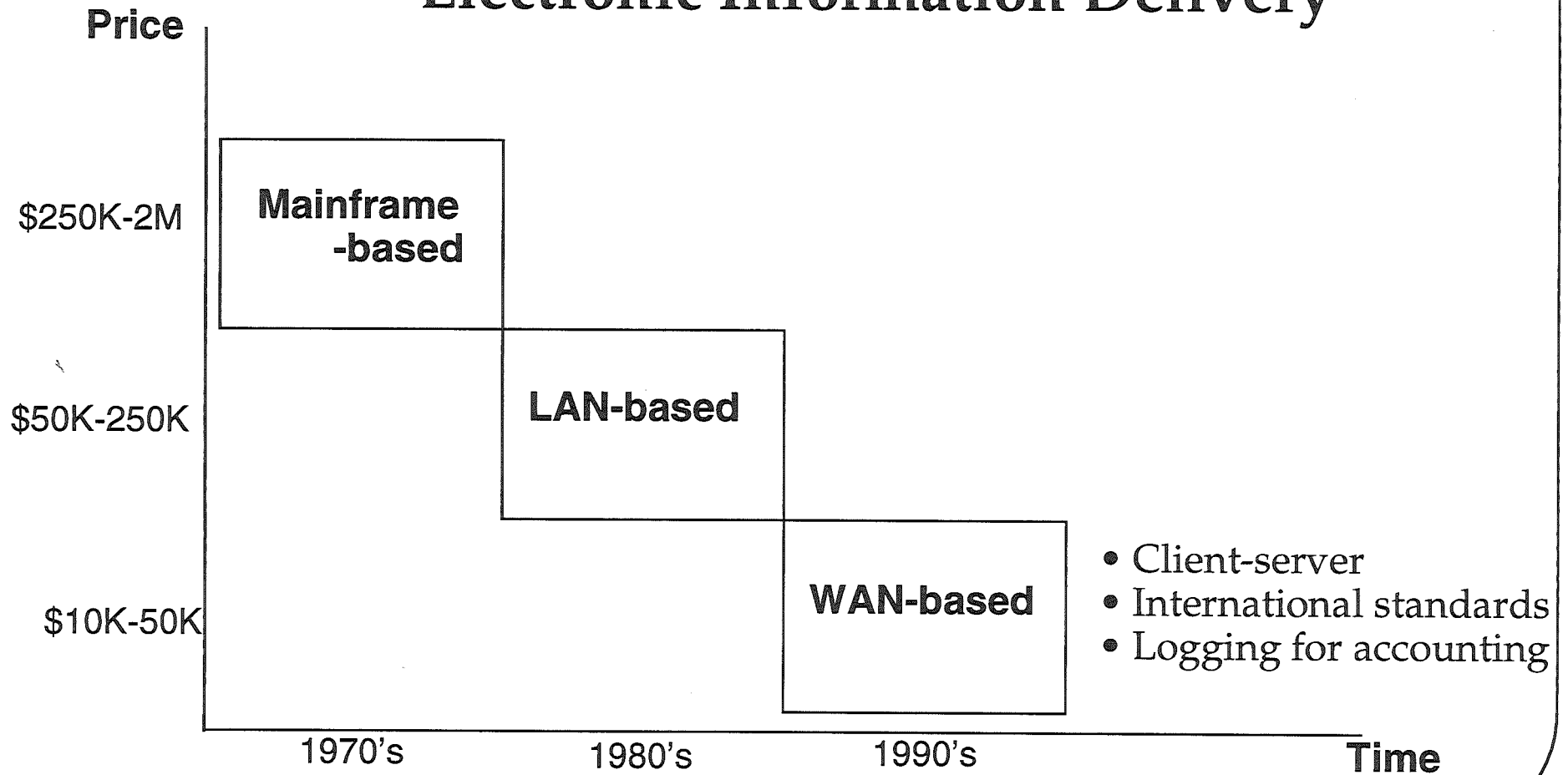
### **Current status**



## **WAIS Inc: Network Publishing**

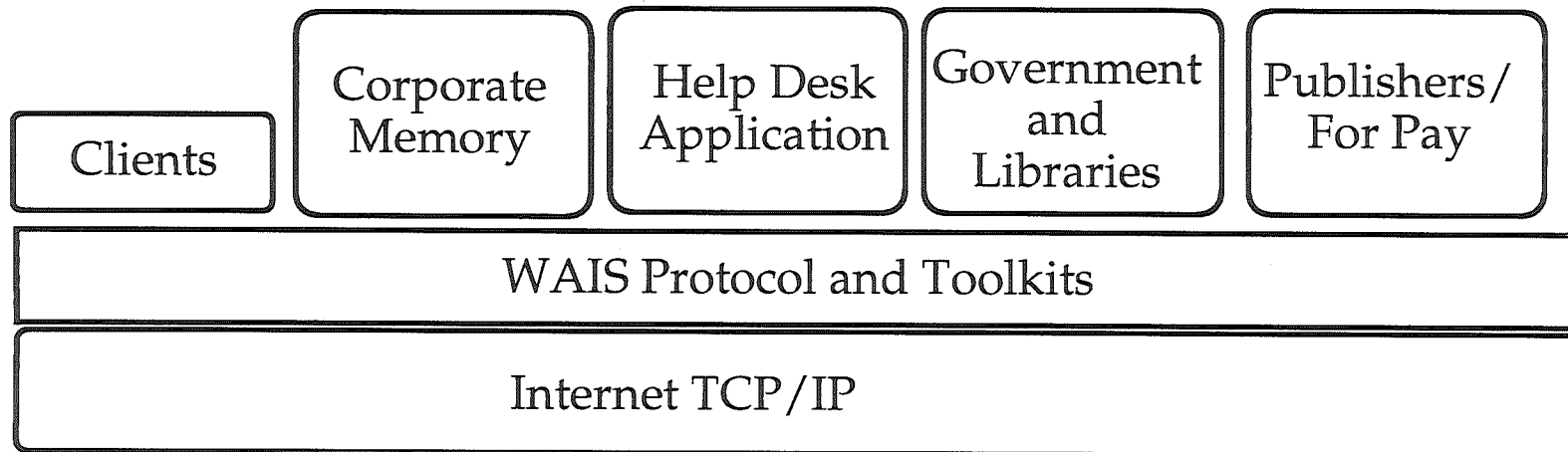
- **Founded June 1992 from 1990 Consortium of Apple / Thinking Machines / DowJones / KPMG**
- **Technology: 2 Founders from Supercomputing**
- **Internet: Experience in Building an Internet System**
- **Publishing: 2 Founders from Publishing**

## Electronic Information Delivery



## WAIS Inc. Position

- WAIS Inc. Brings:
  - Application Protocols
  - Database Server Technology
  - Wide Area Network Expertise
- Work with Industry Partners



## **WAIS Inc Markets and Partners**

- **Large Corporations**
  - Fujitsu, Intel
  - Perot Systems, Mitre
- **Publishers**
  - Dow Jones, encyclopedia, Scholastic Inc
  - Sun Microsystems
- **Government**
  - NASA, Defense, Intelligence
  - US Government Printing Office
- **Libraries**
  - Library of Congress, Rice University

## WAIS Inc Products

**WAIS Workstation for Unix**

**\$10k-40k**

Novell  
Appleshare

WAIS  
Workstation

LAN and Internet

**WAIS Server for Unix**

**\$15k-50k**

DBMS

WAIS  
Server

Internet

Dial-up

Other networks

**Services and Training**

# WAIS Navigation

- **Optimized for Wide Area Networks**
- **Natural Language with Relevance Feedback**
- **Personal/Enterprise/Global Information**
- **Interactive Search → Agents**

## **WAIS Inc Server**

- **Mixed Natural Language and Boolean**
- **Accounting for Billing**
- **Network Security**
- **Data in original formats**
- **Popular Unix Platforms**

## Future Directions

- **Servers: Integrate Gopher, Web, and WAIS Capabilities**
- **Protocols: Working on Standards Committees and Protocol Toolkits**
- **Online Services: Service Bureau of Publishers**



## 1994 Plans

- **Server 2.0 Release: Integrate Browsing, DBMS, and Security**
- **Protocol Toolkit: Z39.50-v2, URL, (RSA or Kerberos), etc**
- **For-Pay Services on the Internet**

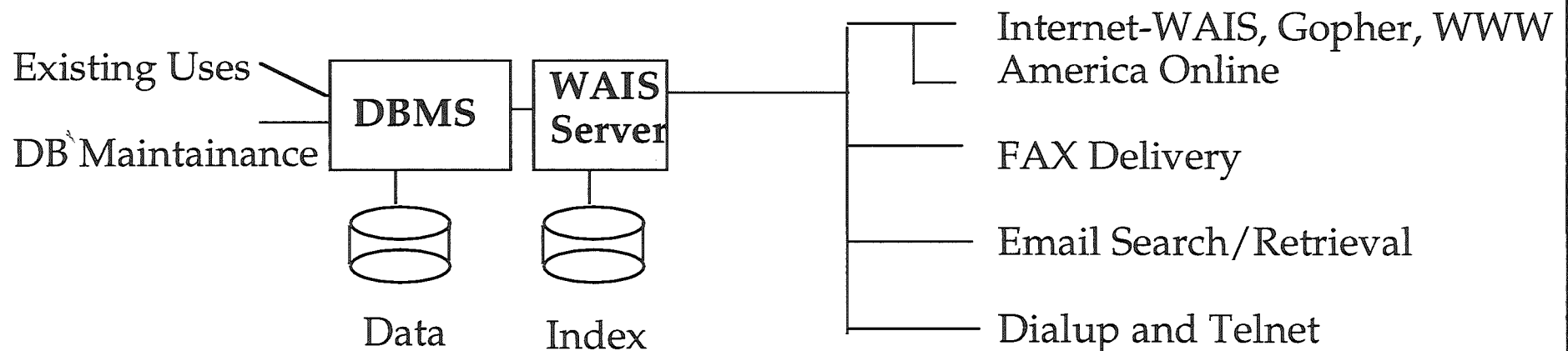
## **Some WAIS Systems**

# US Federal Agencies Using WAIS

The OMB Circular A-130 specifically notes: 'Emerging standards such as Wide Area Information Servers (using the NISO Z39.50 standard) will be used increasingly to facilitate dissemination of government data...''

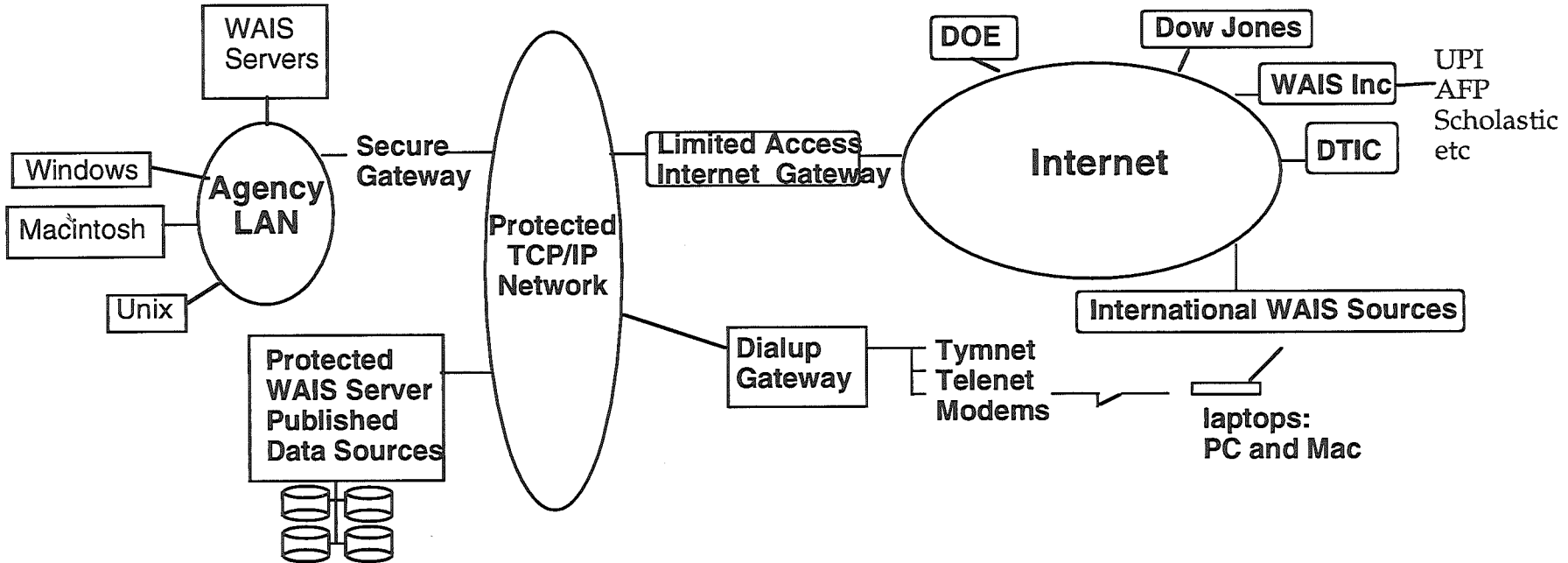
- **NII: Government Information Locators System**
- **Department of Energy**
- **NASA**
- **US Geological Survey**
- **Intelligence (Open Source)**
- **FBI (Terror an Arson)**
- **Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC)**
- **US Department of Agriculture**
- **Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Securities and Exchange Commission (soon)**

# Defense Technical Information Center WAIS System

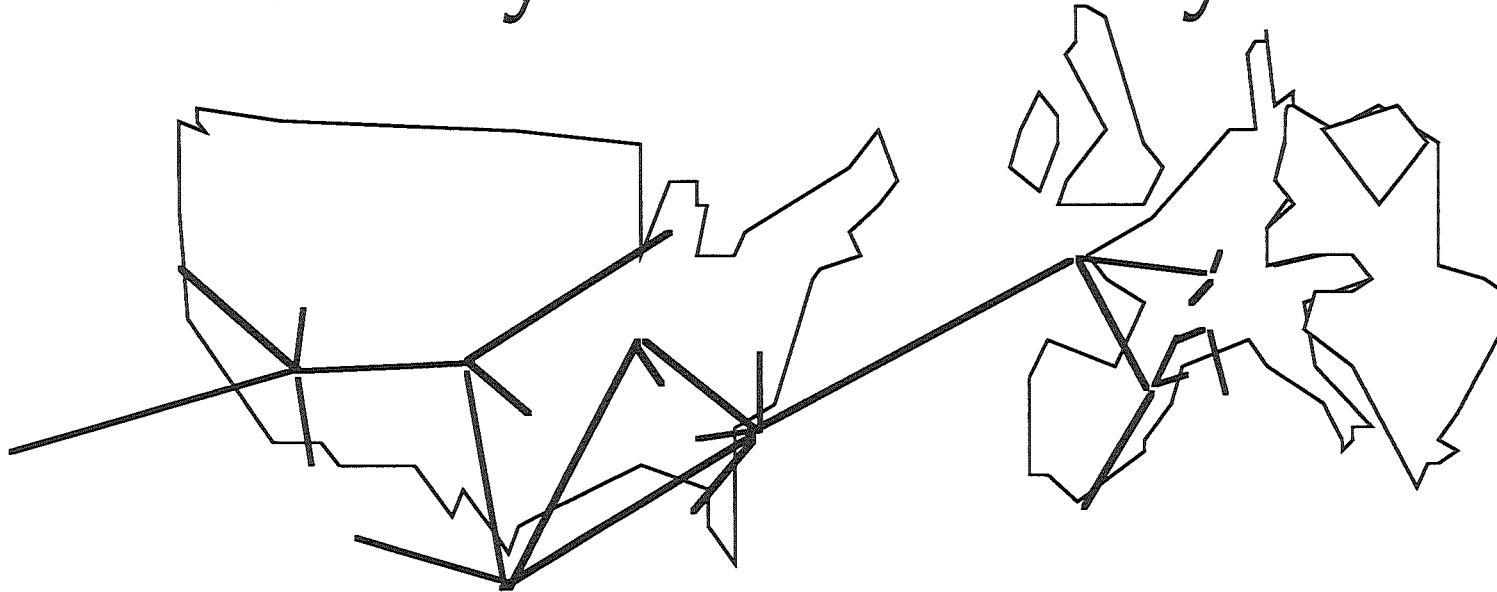


- **Project Just Starting (due within 1 year)**
- **Increased access to Databases and Documents**

# US Intelligence Agencies Open Source WAIS System



# Perot Systems WAIS System



- **Corporate Information**
  - Resumes, Company Policies, Presentations, Contracts, Proposals, Phone book
- **Published Info**
  - CDROM's, Internet resources

## Digital Libraries

- Easy to use card catalog (MARC records)
- Remote use from home or office
- Full text, scanned documents, pictures

<code>[pegun.law.columbia.e]</code>	<code>columbia-law-library-catalog</code>
<code>[pegun.law.columbia.e]</code>	<code>columbia-spanish-law-catalog</code>
<code>[quake.think.com]</code>	<code>tmc-library</code>

## **Network Publishers: Sun Microsystems**

- **Combined use of Network Tools to Stay in Touch with Customers**
- **Email Lists to 10,000 users**
- **Archive Downloads of 12,000/day**
- **Press Releases, Bug Fixes, Etc**



# Digital Libraries and Network Publishing

Large Networks + Too Much Information = A Problem

WAIS Can Help Users Find Critical Information

WAIS Can Help Publishers Deliver Information to Users